Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

# Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DURBAN 00056 101124Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 IO-13 ACDA-10 EB-08 MCT-01 OPR-02 /111 W
----------101132Z 123034 /20/40
R 091300Z FEB 77
FM AMCONSUL DURBAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2482
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USUN NEW YORK 204

UNCLAS DURBAN 56

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O.11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR LT SF (TRANSKEI)
SUBJECT: LESOTHO/TRANSKEI/SOUTH AFRICA: BORDER CHARGES AND LAND CLAIMS

1. PAST FEW DAYS PRODUCED ONE INCIDENT AND SEVERAL EXCHANGES OF CLAIMS AND ACCUSATIONS, APPRENTLY IN CONNECTION WITH VISIT OF UN MISSION HEADED BY ASST SECGEN ABDULRAHIM ABBY FARAH TO INVESTIGATE LESOTHO-TRANSKEI BORDER AND RELATED PROBLEMS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 DURBAN 00056 101124Z

2. INCIDENT OCCURRED FEBRUARY 4 WHEN TWO SOUTH AFRICAN JOURNALISTS ENTERED LESOTHO TO COVER UN TEAM'S BORDER VISIT BUT WERE DETAINED BY LESOTHO POLICE UNTIL UN GROUP HAD LEFT AREA. REPORTERS, UMTATA-BASED BRUCE STEPHENSON OF SAPA AND DAVID THOMAS OF DURBAN DAILY NEWS, CROSSED AT TELE BRIDGE BORDER POST BUT WERE SOON DETAINED IN BORDER TOWN OF GUTHING. PASSPORTS AND PRESS CARDS WERE TAKEN AND REPORTERS WERE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

INTERROGATED FOR NINE HOURS BEFORE BEING RELEASED AND ESCORTED BACK TO TRANSKEI. SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS IN REPORTING INCIDENT MADE MUCH OF FACT THAT DURING UN TEAM'S VISIT 256 PERSONS ACTUALLY CROSSED AT TELE BRIDGE: 87 FROM LESOTHO TO TRANSKEI AND 169 GOING OTHER WAY. PRESS ALSO REPORTED THAT A TRANSKEI MP, MR. SIMON BURHALI, CROSSED INTO LESOTHO AND PERSONALLY INVITED UN TEAM TO INSPECT TRANSKEI SIDE (INVITATION REPORTEDLY DECLINED).

3. SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS ON FEBRUARY 6 FEATURED ALLEGED CLAIMS BY LESOTHO PRIME MINISTER, CHIEF LEABUA JONATHAN, TO PARTS OF TRANSKEI AND SOUTH AFRICA. JONATHAN REPORTEDLY CLAIMED THE TWO TRANSKEI DISTRICTS OF MALUTI (OR MATATIELE) AND HERSCHEL; THE QWAQWA BASOTHO HOMELAND; AND THE ENTIRE ORANGE FREE STATE IN SOUTH AFRICA. ALL THESE AREAS, JONATHAN WAS QUOTED AS SAYING, WERE LOST BY LESOTHO DURING "WARS OF DISPOSSESSION" WITH THE BOERS DURING THE 19TH CENTURY.

4. TRANSKEI FOREIGN MINISTER DIGBY KOYANA RESPONDED IN FEB 7 PRESS STATEMENT THAT LESOTHO'S CLAIMS TO PARTS OF TRANSKEI WERE GROUNDLESS. KOYANA SAID TRANSKEI REJECTED AND WOULD IGNORE LESOTHO'S CLAIM WHICH, HE ADDED, HAD NEVER BEEN MADE BEFORE TRANSKEI BECAME INDEPENDENT. KOYANA ALSO ANNOUNCED HE HAD SENT LETTER JAN 28 INVITING U.S. ASST SECGEN FARAH TO VISIT TRANSKEI TO XPLORE "CLOSURE" OF BORDER BUT NO REPLY HAD BEEN RECEIVED.

5. SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER, DR. HILGARD MULLER, ADDRESSED TOPIC IN S.A. PARLIAMENT FEB 8. MULLER NOTED THE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 DURBAN 00056 101124Z

S.A. PRESSMEN HAD BEEN DETAINED "IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH MIGHT SUGGEST THAT THE LESOTHO AUTHORITIES WERE TRYING TO KEEP THEM FROM ASCERTAINING THE TRUTH ABOUT THE SITUATION ON THE LESOTHO AND TRANSKEI BORDER." DR. MULLER SAID THE SAG HAD CONVEYED ITS CONCERN TO GOL AND HAD ASKED FOR FACTS OF THE INCIDENT. MULLER ALSO TERMED PRIME MINISTER JONATHAN'S LAND CLAIMS AS "WILD AND PROVOCATIVE." HE OBSERVED THAT LESOTHO'S STATEMENTS WERE RELEASED TO THE PRESS BEFORE THE SAG HAD RECEIVED THEM. MULLER CONCLUDED, "WE CAN ONLY CONCLUDE THAT ALL THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE SOME MUSICAL BACKGROUND FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE UNITED NATIONS MISSION."
FARBER

UNCLASSIFIED

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** VISITS, INVESTIGATIONS, BORDER INCIDENTS, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, TRANSKEI
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Sent Date:** 09-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
**Decaption Note:**
**Disposition Action:** n/a
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:**
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
**Document Number:** 1977DURBAN00056
**Document Source:** CORE
**Document Unique ID:** 00
**Drafter:** n/a
**Enclosure:** n/a
**Executive Order:** N/A
**Errors:** n/a
**Expiration:**
**Film Number:** D770046-0932
**Format:** TEL
**From:** DURBAN
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Image Path:**
**ISecure:** 1
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770260/aaaacanc.tel
**Line Count:** 109
**Litigation Code IDs:**
**Litigation Codes:**
**Litigation History:**
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
**Message ID:** 4a9cacc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
**Office:** ACTION AF
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Page Count:** 2
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Previous Classification:** n/a
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Reference:** n/a
**Retention:** 0
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED
**Review Content Flags:**
**Review Date:** 21-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
**Review Event:**
**Review Exemptions:** n/a
**Review Media Identifier:**
**Review Release Date:** n/a
**Review Release Event:** n/a
**Review Transfer Date:**
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a
**SAS ID:** 3371697
**Secure:** OPEN
**Status:** <DBA CHANGED> mcm 20040917
**Subject:** PASSPORT
**TAGS:** PFOR, PBOR, UN, (JONATHAN, LEABUA), (FARAH, ABDULRAHIM ABBY)
**To:** STATE
**Type:** TE
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4a9cacc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
**Review Markings:**
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009